by the beneficiary. The Rural Group Life Insurance Scheme (RGLIS) provides an insurance cover of Rs.5000/- payable to the nominees on the death of the insured before attaining 60 years of age on payment of an annual premium of Rs.60 to 70 depending upon the age of entry of the beneficiary. In the case of one member belonging to the below poverty line families 50% of the premium is subsidised. The beneficiary is required to pay only 50% of the premium. The LIC also operates group insurance schemes for 23 professionals in the age group of 18 to 60 which provides for a death cover of Rs.5000/- on natural death and Rs. 25,000/- on accidental death or permanent total disability, on payment of premium of Rs.50/- per annum of which Rs. 25/- is subsidised by the LIC.

The GIC provides for a Personal Accident Insurance Social Security Scheme (PASS) for poor Families whose family income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 7200/- per annum. A sum of Rs. 3000/- is payable to the dependents of the deceased earning member of these families. No premium is payable by the beneficiary. The GIC also operates Hut Insurance Scheme for poor families in rural areas which provides relief to the extent of Rs.1000/- if their hut is destroyed and Rs. 500/- if the belongings also get destroyed in fire. No premium is charged from the beneficiary. The GIC also provides compensation to victims of Hit and Run motor accidents where identity of vehicle cannot be established. A sum of Rs.25,000/- is payable in case of death and Rs.12,500/- in case of grievous injury.

Rubber Park in Kerala

2721. SHRI P.C.THOMAS:

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved some Rubber Parks to be set up in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Rubber Parks are proposed to be set up in association with KINFRA; and

(d) if so, the number of industrial units are likely to be established in these parks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (d) Government have approved the proposal of Rubber Board to set up a Rubber Park at Irapuram in Ernakulam District of Kerala in association with Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA).

The park aims at developing 100 acres of land providing infrastructure facilities such as electricity and water, centralised testing and certification of quality of rubber products, common treatment and discharge of factory effluent, communication facilities etc. In the park, 60 to 70 industrial units are likely to be established.

O.R.H.D.C.L. and N.H.B.

2722. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Orissa Rural Housing and Development Corporation Ltd., has become the first public sector unit in the country which qualify for refinancing by National Housing Bank;

(b) if so, whether the Corporation has also got approval from the National Housing Bank to implement the proposed rural housing scheme; and

(c) if so, the funds sanctioned by the NHB for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) National Housing Bank (NHB) have reported that at present there are 25 Housing Finance Companies eligible for refinance. The Orissa Rural Housing and Development Corporation Ltd. (ORHDCL) is the second government company to become eligible for refinance facility from NHB. ORHDCL has been included in the list of primary lending institutions which will provide financial assistance under the proposed Rural Housing Scheme. NHB has also reported that the ORHDCL has been given a target of 100 loans to be disbursed during the first year of operation of the scheme. Assuming an average loan of Rs. 1 lakh per house, the amount to be lent by ORHDCL would be Rs.1 crore. There is no bar on the ORHDCL to sanction more than 100 loans in the first year. The refinance assistance from NHB to the ORHDCL would depend on various parameters such as the company's net owned funds, NHB's exposure to the company and the recovery performance by the company.

[Translation]

Pricee of Coal

2723. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price rise in respect of coal has been more in comparison with other mineral products and other items after the Nationalisation of coal mines;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the said rise in the prices of coal in the country;

(c) whether the production cost of coal is very high in the country in comparison with that of other countries; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the price rise by reducing the production cost of coal in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The Price rise in respect of coal has not been more in comparison with other